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Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

One slogan that I believe perfectly expresses the mindset of the Orthodox Church and specifically each individual Orthodox Christian is: **The Universe is My Parish.**

This is a truth that is often overlooked, specifically because there are many who adopt a parochial mindset, exhibiting a narrow or limited focus on their parish only. Yet we as Orthodox Christians are called to follow a way of existence which proves that indeed, The Universe is My Parish. Each must say, “All that surrounds me – the people, the trees, the lakes, and the air – are a part of me and I am a part of them, both personally and actively.”

St. Maximos the Confessor writes that “For, when Orthodox Christians enter a Church, they are in the comfort of their own home, and when they leave the building of the Church, the feeling is that they are still inside the Church.”

This we affectionately call, “The Liturgy after the Liturgy.” For we understand the Liturgy to be the work of the people. The Liturgy does not end on Sunday around noon when the priest distributes andithoron. We understand that as we leave the Church, the Liturgy continues. We continue working together, we continue worshipping God, and we continue serving one another and all people with love.

The Greek term for Church Ekklesia, implies a calling out from the world in order to fulfill the true vocation of the whole world – namely to realize its dynamic relationship with God. The fact that the Church is in the world signifies that God penetrates the whole world. Therefore, Church and world cannot be thought of independently of one another. Since you and I are both in the Church and in the world, we have a personal relationship with God, with other human beings, and to the rest of creation. The key to our slogan is this: We are responsible for our fellow brothers and sisters and for all of creation. These are the two wings for flight: care for humanity and care for the environment.

Put in another way, in and through Jesus’ incarnation, death and resurrection, the Church exercises her proper function when she sanctifies and transforms every person and every created thing. In the risen Christ, material creation enters the infinity of new life. There is no more recycling or bondage to sin, death, and decay. Matter does not now return to be recycled; It opens itself to the life of God, to the splendor of uncreated light.

Patristic theology affirms that Christ’s incarnation, death and resurrection are to restore the image of God in humanity to its original dignity, from the distorted and degraded state of the present human condition to wholeness and beauty.

It is with this understanding in mind that I want to speak of the notion of The Universe as My Parish. I want to share with you two examples of this mentality or slogan put into action. These are the two wings for flight: care for humanity and care for the environment.

**“For, when Orthodox Christians enter a Church, they are in the comfort of their own home, and when they leave the building of the Church, the feeling is that they are still inside the Church.”**

**PART 1: CARE FOR HUMANITY**

By a decree published on November 22, 1967, Albania officially proclaimed itself an atheist state - the only one of its kind in the world and in history. In this state, all forms of religious expression were constitutionally forbidden. Hundreds of churches were pulled down, and many more were turned into machine shops, warehouses, stables, cinemas, or clubs. Virtually all the monasteries were destroyed or became army barracks.

In 1967, just before the communistic takeover, the Church of Albania had an Archdiocese which consisted of three Episcopal sees, 19 diocesan districts, 330 parishes, and 25 monasteries. Once communism took over, clergy were unfrocked: many of them were thrown into prison or sent into exile, and a number went to their martyrdom. The 440 clergy who had served the Orthodox Church would be reduced to only 22, all old and frail, some close to death by 1990.

In November 1990, yielding to international realignments, the Albanian government decided to tone down its measures
against religion. In January 1991, the Ecumenical Patriarch Demetrios and the Holy Synod appointed a professor from the University of Athens, Bishop Anastasios of Androusa, as Patriarchal exarch. His remit being to go over to Albania for first contacts with the Orthodox and the authorities of the country. Well, we can say that Archbishop Anastasios stayed true to his name, for there truly has been an Anastasis that has taken place. The Church of Albania has been resurrected by the grace of God and through the works of Archbishop Anastasios.

How so? Well, since Archbishop Anastasios’ arrival, 150 churches have been newly built, and another 160 churches have been restored from a ruined condition. Since the seminary was opened in the port city of Durres in 1992 (now near Durrës on its own rural hilltop), there have been over 140 ordinations. There is a church radio station and newspaper, an icon painting and restoration studio, a candle factory, and a printing house. No one knows how many thousands of baptisms there have been since 1991, only that conversion is a frequent event.

In 1997, when Albania was plunged into civil anarchy, the church provided emergency aid to 25,000 families. In 1999, when half-a-million refugees fled to Albania from Kosovo, the church took care of 50,000 people and ran the last refugee camp in the country.

And if this does not prove that Archbishop Anastasios and the Orthodox people of Albania live the mindset The Universe is my Parish, I offer you one final point. In response to the bombings and negative conditions that took place and were still taking place in Kosovo, Archbishop Anastasios and the faithful Orthodox of Albania sent out a news release highlighting that a peaceful coexistence of religious communities is the surest way to generate social progress. No matter how much one is in the right, he must respect the sanctity and the purpose of sacred places of worship. These should become centers of reconciliation and peace and not breeding grounds for maintaining animosities.

To this end, Archbishop Anastasios and the people, took out $600,000 from their Cathedral fund, and have pledged it to the building of a Church and a mosque in Kosovo. If this is not feasible, they want the $600,000 to go towards the construction of a youth center that will promote peaceful coexistence. Archbishop Anastasios and the people of Albania have shown that, The Universe is My Parish.

PART 2: CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The second wing: the care of the environment, is a calling that Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has taken to heart. In its present condition the Ecumenical Patriarchate has had to endure numerous difficulties in order to just survive. There has been a continuous push by the Turkish authorities and extremist groups to rid Constantinople (present day Istanbul) and all of Turkey of a Greek presence. One key factor that has contributed to this significant decrease was the closing of the Halki Theological School in 1972. This action disallowed the possibility of men being trained to serve the Greek Orthodox living in Turkey as priests. The Turkish authorities knew that where there are no priests, there are no thriving church communities. Where there are no functioning churches there are no active and united communities. The Turkish authorities have gone so far as to say that the Ecumenical Patriarch is not ecumenical. He is just a local Greek bishop in Turkey, they say. In spite of these adverse conditions, the Ecumenical Patriarchate has continued to follow the way of Christ by boldly proclaiming through their actions, The Universe is My Parish.

Most noted are the Patriarch’s efforts in environmental awareness, which have earned him the title “Green Patriarch.” He has organized environmental seminars in co-sponsorship with His Royal Highness Prince Philip, and international environmental symposia on Patmos (1995) and around the Black Sea (1997). Since 1999, three other Religion, Science and the Environment International Symposia took place under the joint auspices of His All Holiness and His Excellency Mr. Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission:

- Symposium III: The Damude River
- Symposium IV: “The Adriatic Sea: A Sea at Risk, a Unity of Purpose” (June 2002)
- Symposium VI: The Amazon River
- Symposium VII: The Arctic River
- Symposium VIII: The Mississippi River

These endeavors, together with his inspiring efforts on behalf of religious freedom and human rights, rank Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew among the world’s foremost apostles of love, peace and reconciliation for humanity, a reason for which he was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by the U.S. Congress. This does not sound like the work of a local Greek bishop.

So in these few examples, we see that the care of creation and the love and concern for our fellow human beings is what confers this communion between the Church and the world. You and I must realize, embrace and make known the fact that every single created being on the face of this earth tells of the love of creator; it speaks aloud of the unity of God and of the atonement between heaven and earth. There is a very vital sense in which everything in this world not only reveals but even fulfills the kingdom of heaven. For God is still at work on creation; and God invites our contribution of this sacred task.
VISIT THE CATHEDRAL'S YOUTUBE PAGE FOR OUR CSP WEEK 1 RECAP VIDEO!
JUNE 25 - JULY 1, 2018

CAMP SAINT PAUL

WEEK 1
HOPE, JOY, AND GOYA
BY Diakonnissa Georgia Papadopoulos

With the school year coming to an end, we reflect on all the wonderful experiences and events that have made our HOPE, JOY, and GOYA ministry a very fruitful and edifying ministry for all the children. Our hope with this ministry is to bring their Orthodox faith to life with opportunities for our children to use their talents for the building up of the body of Christ, our Church. This season, our children had the opportunity to help prepare toiletry bags and food items for the Midnight Run that some of our parishioners and GOYANS attended. It is important for children of all ages to understand the importance of helping people who are in need. The Midnight Run preparation was a fun activity that allowed for the children to learn about empathy and the importance of the commandment “loving our neighbor.”

For more information regarding our HOPE/JOY ministry, please email Diakonissa Georgia at georgia9578@gmail.com and for GOYA reach out to Sotiri Michalatos at sotiri@thecathedralnyc.org.
The Cathedral School gathered June 11th at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Manhattan to celebrate the graduation exercises of its 8th grade class. Distinguished television producer Michael Karzis spoke to the graduates and attendees, underscoring the importance of an education rooted in the classics, Greek language, and Greek culture. Mr. Karzis reminded the students to always, “Contribute...be respectful...and be kind”.

Distinguished guests such as His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Geron of America and Bishop Nicholas of Russian Orthodox Church, listened to speeches given by outstanding scholars George Chudley, Logan Coster and Richard Abiuso, the valedictorian and co-salutatorians of the class respectively. The Three Hierarchs award, celebrating the student who most embodies Greek Orthodox values, was given to Manolis Lambrakis. “A school that graduates students with such strong academics and moral values is unique and a source of strength for the Greek community” noted Live Diakolios, a Cathedral School Board Member.

This year's graduates of The Cathedral School hold a remarkable place in the school's 69 year history. They are the first class in 15 years to complete their Hellenic education with a trip to Greece, visiting many of Greece's UNESCO World Heritage Sites. In addition, the graduates are leaving The Cathedral School to enter some of the best high schools in New York City. “Our students place into the best high schools because an education rooted in Hellenic principles and ideals is the best preparation for a strong academic future.” said Head of School, Kristine Cecere, regarding the graduates.
THE CATHEDRAL SCHOOL NAMES GEORGE PAPAYANNIS AS ITS NEW HEAD OF SCHOOL

NEW YORK, July 2, 2018 — It is with great joy and enthusiasm that The Cathedral School Board introduces its new Head of School, Mr. George Papayannis.

George Papayannis is an award-winning leader in the Boston Public School district. In eleven years with the district, he has taken on roles with increasing scope and responsibility, from science and engineering teacher, to team leader, to evaluator and instructional coach. Prior to working in schools, George was the Assistant Executive Director of the ACE Mentor Program, where he managed operations for the New York and Garden City programs.

George transitioned to education from the building industry. He pairs design thinking skills he developed as a structural engineer with Thornton Tomasetti and project management skills he developed as a project engineer at Turner Construction to bring innovative learning experiences to students. George’s passion lies in cultivating industry and community partnerships to extend the students’ learning experiences beyond the four walls of the school building.

Archdeacon Panteleimon Papadopoulos, chair of the Search Committee and Cathedral School parent, believes that “George brings innovative, dynamic and creative approaches to our beloved Cathedral School which are deeply rooted in the principles of academic excellence and the Hellenic Orthodox phronema, which has defined his life. I have witnessed this not only from my conversations with George and his wife, but also with his peers who have worked closely with him in education and in the Church.”

George is a Trustee, Overseer, and Chair of The Innovators at the Museum of Science in Boston. “He has a keen understanding of how to maximize the efforts of all committee members and build on of their strengths,” said Michael Grace, Director of the Annual Fund for the Museum of Science. “George is the type of volunteer that development professionals dream of — he is the quintessential Museum ambassador, a strong leader within the Museum community, and has a sharp understanding of philanthropy and the inner workings of a non-profit that, from my own personal experience, is quite rare.”

George has been active in the Reggio Emilia-inspired community since 2010. He is sought after by educators for professional development workshops and panels because of his innovations in bringing a Reggio approach to older children. In 2017, he was hired by Equity Lab Charter School to be their founding principal for the prospective charter school’s application, and strategized with their board on all aspects of the school’s design including curriculum, operations, governance, staffing, space, and outreach.

At Hellenic College, George was an Adjunct Professor of Environmental Science for five years and co-authored the teacher guide for Of Your Mystical Supper: The Eucharist (Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, 2009). George has served on many boards, committees, and panels, including for Teachers College, Columbia University, and Boston University and has facilitated workshops at conferences across the country. Conference topics have included building partnerships, using video games to increase science learning, and designing effective learning spaces. In 2017, the president of Teachers College, Columbia University, recognized George for his alumni impact in the Boston region.

George holds a BS in Architectural Engineering from Drexel University, magna cum laude, an MA in Secondary School Science Education from Teachers College, Columbia University, and an EdM in School Leadership from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He holds principal licenses in Massachusetts for grades PreK-12, and teaching licenses in Massachusetts, New York, and Colorado. He lives with his wife, Melissa, and infant daughter, Evanthia, in the City of Boston.

Theodore P. Klingos, chair of The Cathedral School Board and an alumnus of the school, is confident that “under his leadership The Cathedral School will become a model school continuing to celebrate her high academic standards and elevating what makes her special — the TCS family. May God bless this new chapter for the school which is sure to be filled with tremendous opportunities.”
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As we are getting ready for summer we would like to summarize the events that took place since our last newsletter.

Members of our Philoptochos along with the community of the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity were busy preparing the Palms for Palm Sunday and dyeing eggs for Easter Sunday.

On Sunday, April 22, 2018, Cathedral Philoptochos members together with Rev. Fr. John Vlahos and the Cathedral Community participated in the Greek Independence Day Parade on Fifth Avenue. The parade commemorates the 197th anniversary of the Greek Independence.

We had our last General Meeting on May 9, 2018. Varvara M. Gokea, Esq., a Philoptochos member and attorney specializing in immigration matters and estate planning, gave an interesting and informative speech and answered a plethora of questions following the presentation. The meeting was well attended.

Many Philoptochos members attended Maria Farantouri’s concert at Carnegie Hall on May 12, 2018. Maria Farantouri, a well known Greek singer, joined by a chamber ensemble and the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity Choir, performed songs composed by the world famous Mikis Theodorakis. Our Philoptochos was one of the sponsors of this great concert.

Our Cathedral Philoptochos Annual Spring Luncheon took place on May 15, 2018, at The Loeb Central Park Boathouse. The weather was perfect. A nice, sunny, spring day, allowed everyone to enjoy shopping at the boutiques in the surrounding garden. Our guest speaker was Katherine Elizabeth Fleming, Provost of NYU. Katherine E. Fleming is also the Alexander S. Onassis Professor of Hellenic Culture and Civilization in the Department of History at New York University. She spoke about her own Greek Odyssey, which was about the time she spent in Crete and how it influenced her life. Her presentation was charming, entertaining, and refreshing. Katherine E. Fleming is fluent in Greek and we were impressed by her love for Greece and the Greek culture. As we do every year since its establishment in 2008, the Luncheon benefits the Cathedral Philoptochos Scholarship Fund. This fund is to aid those students who attend the Cathedral School and need tuition assistance. In addition, and as noted in the Luncheon invitation, proceeds from this year’s Luncheon will also benefit the much-needed renovations at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.
On Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 13, 2018, the Archdiocesan Cathedral Philoptochos had its annual Artoklassia in honor of all its members.

On Monday, June 11, 2018, the Archdiocesan Cathedral Philoptochos represented by our President, at the Cathedral School graduation, awarded a monetary gift to the Valedictorian. This has been a tradition for many years.

We are current in fulfilling our National Philoptochos obligations:
- Orthodox Christian Missions
- Hellenic College Holy Cross Lenten Event
- Sisterhood of Saint Basil Academy
- International Orthodox Christian Charities
- 75th Anniversary Founders Fund
- Orthodox Christian Fellowship

We have fulfilled our Direct Archdiocesan District Philoptochos obligations:
- Chapter dues
- Hellenic Cultural Center
- Holy Cross Scholarship Fund
- St. Michael’s Home

The Feed the Homeless program established in 1979 by the Archdiocesan Cathedral Philoptochos stills continues every Tuesday throughout the year, with the exception of July and August. In conjunction with the Jan Hus Church we provide dinner for over 100 homeless and low-income individuals.

The Archdiocesan Cathedral Philoptochos continues to support welfare cases as needed.

Every Sunday after the Divine Liturgy the Cathedral Philoptochos continues to sponsor the Coffee Hour.

The 2018 National Philoptochos Biennial Convention will convene on July 1–5, 2018 at the Boston Marriott Copley Place in Boston, Massachusetts. Our President and members of the Archdiocesan Cathedral Philoptochos Society Board will be attending. We are one of the sponsors of this event.

If you haven’t had a chance to renew your membership kindly visit our website: ac-philoptochos.com

Thank you for your continued support and generosity throughout the year. Without your help we would not be able to achieve our goals!

HAPPY SUMMER! ΚΑΛΟ ΚΑΛΟΚΑΙΡΙ!

Please visit our website, www.ac-philoptochos.com, for the latest news!
Save the date!

ARCHDIOCESAN CATHEDRAL PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY

Save the Date
CHRYSANTHEMUM BALL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018
METROPOLITAN CLUB, NEW YORK CITY

Direct Archdiocesan District Philoptochos

Save the Date
Saturday
November 17, 2018

Agape Luncheon
Crest Hollow Country Club Woodbury, NY
to benefit
The St. Michael’s Home Expansion Fund
Spring Luncheon photos: Dimitris Panagos
The Archdiocesan Cathedral would like to thank Sam Karalis for continuing in his Uncle Sarantos' footsteps and donating all of the flowers and his services, as he creating our Epataphios for this year.

On behalf of our community, we extend our thanks and appreciation to Sam and the entire Karalis Family for their loyalty and generosity to our beautiful Cathedral and community.

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Christos Basakiros is the cousin of the Very Rev. Fr. Vasilios Bassakyros
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Service Type</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, August 1st:</td>
<td>Small Paraklesis to the Theotokos</td>
<td>6:00PM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Orthodox Spirituality Class</td>
<td>7:00PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, August 2nd:</td>
<td>Great Paraklesis to the Theotokos</td>
<td>6:00PM</td>
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<td>Friday, August 3rd:</td>
<td>Small Paraklesis to the Theotokos</td>
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<td>Sunday, August 5th:</td>
<td>10th Sunday of Matthew</td>
<td>Orthros 8:45AM</td>
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<td>Divine Liturgy 10:00AM</td>
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<td>Vespers 6:00PM</td>
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<td>Monday, August 6th:</td>
<td><strong>Holy Transfiguration</strong></td>
<td>Orthros 8:00AM</td>
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<td>Divine Liturgy 9:00AM</td>
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<td>Tuesday, August 7th:</td>
<td>Great Paraklesis to the Theotokos</td>
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<td>Wednesday, August 8th:</td>
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<td>Thursday, August 9th:</td>
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<td>Friday, August 10th:</td>
<td>Small Paraklesis to the Theotokos</td>
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<td>Sunday, August 12th:</td>
<td>11th Sunday of Matthew</td>
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<td>Monday, August 13th:</td>
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<td>Tuesday, August 14th:</td>
<td>Great Vespers</td>
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<td>Wednesday, August 15th:</td>
<td><strong>Dormition of the Theotokos</strong></td>
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<td>Sunday, August 19th:</td>
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<td><strong>St Phanourios the Great Martyr</strong></td>
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<td>Wednesday, August 29th:</td>
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